

NSC BRIEFING

27 June 1955

JAPAN-USSR NEGOTIATIONS

- 1. TIME*
- I. Japan-Soviet negotiators have made little progress *in 5 meetings*
- II. Japanese want settlement of outstanding issues before restoring diplomatic relations.
- A. Want return of Habomai and Shikotan islands, and if possible Kurils and South Sakhalin, and fishing rights. Give priority to repatriation of Soviet-held prisoners.
- B. Japanese emphasize any agreement must not affect their obligations to the US.
- III. Moscow wants immediate a normalization of relations with issues to be settled later.
- A. Have taken hard line *on proposed Soviet treaty, including* [opposed to Japanese terms, and insist on] ban on military alliances directed against Russia, *on Western warships' passage through strategic straits and recognition*
- IV. Prospect is for protracted, bitter negotiations with good *Secret* possibility for only limited agreement to end state of war. *to recognize former Japanese territories*
- A. Stiff Soviet terms, deliberately leaked to the Japanese public, have provoked disappointment and resentment.
- B. Moscow is unlikely make any major concessions such as relinquishing former Japanese territory.

SECRET